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The Mattachine Society of the Niagara Frontier

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"The Freedom to love whomever and however we want"

Screen Sisters Success Story

The Aural Column

Allen Restaurant Satisfies The Gourmet Ear

BY JOE SCHUDER II

He leaned back from his dinner, trying to focus his concentration on Judy Garland pictures and old music, in an attempt to avoid looking into his partner's eyes. Doing that would remind him of the feel of their skin-on-skin rubbing together and resting last night. But it would also remind him that another night in his arms was too painfully far away to think about. The Glenn Miller Band began to play "In The Mood..."

Some issues back I began an ongoing series of articles exploring and explaining the sound systems we are treated to (or in some cases must endure) when we are out for an evening of fun and frolic. Then too, as many months ago, the Fifth Freedom staff visited the Allen Restaurant at 16 Allen Street in Buffalo with an eye and palate towards a review of its very fine food. This month I would like to bring these topics together and discuss the unique aural experience that awaits us there.

COCKTAILS FOR TWO

That half of the restaurant's partnership which takes principal responsibility for the music we hear is Joe who, if he could play and be paid for it, would be a producer of entertainment tapes and films. At the restaurant's old location across and up the street, music was played on a record player - one side at a time - with an emphasis on Johnny Mathis, Barbra Streisand and big band music. Now that the location is at 16 Allen Street, they use a much better and more versatile method of program presentation: tape cassettes. The forty-five minutes per side provided by the TDK SA C90 tapes is just right for a complete program. It also allows Dan, Joe and staff freedom from constantly tending the sound system so that they may tend instead to their customers' gustatory desires.

When I asked Joe how he arrived at his decision to use the type of music heard, he told me he had always liked old music, but became a real fan when, during his coming out process, he heard Tommy Dorsey's "Boogie Woogie" on the jukebox at Dominique's.

The first tapes were produced from Dan and Joe's personal record collection. Now other sources include recordings borrowed from friends, family and the Public Library. Joe is constantly on the prowl for old vocal anthologies and original Broadway and Hollywood recordings.

In the early days at 16 Allen Street, they owned only one tapedeck which Joe took home every time he produced a new tape, leaving Dan the temporary task of reverting back to disc sides. Now that there is a tapedeck at home as well as at the restaurant, less time is spent juggling, and more time doing production.

Joe believes different types of music within the old music genre work best at

differing times of the day. There are now some twenty cassettes and more contemporary material from the 1950's, 1960's and 1970's is played at lunchtime. The tapes that contain program material predominantly from the 1930's through the early 1960's are played during dinner. Tapped programs are preferred over broadcast music because of their specialized nature even though a music license is necessary to play them.

THE APPETIZER

Tapes are produced on Dan and Joe's home system which consists of a Marantz 6100 two speed turntable feeding a Marantz model 2230 stereo receiver. The recorder is a Technics model M-7, and Dolby-B noise reduction is used.

Joe does the actual production. Although he prefers to produce while Dan is not around, both partners pass judgement on the final product. "His opinion turns out to be more and more correct after the tape has been played a few times," states Joe.

Personal taste prevails and Joe records what they both like, shying away from full disc sides and intermixing for example, new Bette Middler with old Ethel Waters, Kate Smith and then back to newer Pointer Sisters. The effect is eclectic and sometimes pleasantly surprising. When a tape is finalized, it goes through a test listening period to check for musical "rightness" by being played on their car tape player as they run around town, doing the countless errands necessary to keep the restaurant going.

A good many of the Judy Garland selections came from friends. Joe is particularly proud of the way he interwove selections from Liza Minelli and Judy Garland albums into a recording of Minelli's performance at the London Palladium.

And if you wonder just what show a selection is from, or "Who just sang that song?" a complete catalogue of each program provides the answer. In fact, some regular patrons have produced a tape and reserve playback of a portion of it when they call to reserve a table.

A three year old Samsung model ST 3295 plays Dolbyized tapes via its internal tuner/amplifier section. Bookshelf size speakers, each containing an eight-inch woofer and a three-inch tweeter are wall-mounted just above standing ear level in the main dining room. The B-speaker output of the St 3295 feeds similar speakers in the front dining room.

The playback system at the Allen Restaurant is no statement of the art to be sure. But its sound, while not attentive to the frequency extremes, is well balanced overall, and quite clear. You can understand each lyric of a vocal selection, and distinguish between strings and saxophones on instrumentals.

Continued on page 5

By JOHN A. FAULRING, JR.

The Allendale Theater was built in 1913. Perhaps now, more than any other time in its existence since then, it is going to be put to use the way it was first intended.

In its original state the theater was just that; a theater for not only films, with live accompaniment in those days; a forum for burlesque performers of the day, it is said that even the Barrymore's played there; and a meeting place for all groups and individuals of the Allentown area.

After going through changes from those original uses it has gone from that to family entertainment and even on to X-rated.

Why The Change?

Last Oct. 1, Michele Eodice purchased the theater as a partner of Screen Sisters, Inc. They also operate the Screen Sisters Bookstore at 100 Elmwood Ave.

Michele had worked at the candy counter of the theater for two years previous. This had been preceded by a taste of theater at Buff State and Oswego as a part of her education, starting at 17.

"I really never thought I would be doing this sort of thing," Michele says, "I just applied for a job there and got it. As time went on I learned everything about running the place. I went from candy counter to ticket taker, to projectionist and everything else in between."

"I had my own ideas of what the theater should be used for when I took over. Since then I have been trying these ideas out, I have come up with many different ones," Eodice states.

Boiler Ball Beginning

The Boiler Ball held recently, to fund repairs of the theater ailing system for keeping patrons warm, was the beginning of going back to the roots of Allendale.

"The Ball was a throwback to Vaudeville," she says, "We had a belly dancer, magician and other variety acts. There is really no place for this type of entertainment any more."

With the success of the Ball, it is now on to other similar projects. "The next 'new' thing we will be trying will be a live play in April. It is a play called *The Tooth of Crime* by Sam Shepard. Studio Arena had his play *Curse of the Starving Class* last year," Eodice proudly states. He has also written *Resurrection* and *Raggedy Man*.

"The play is about the music industry in 1990. It features Pauline and the Perils. Pauline will be featured in the play and the Perils will provide the live music for the play. All original music will be included. You could say that it is a '60's movie set in the 1990's."

Film Policy Improves

The recent showing of *Taxi Zum Klo* was a first for the Theater and for Buffalo. "I had a time trying to get the film to show here. It hadn't broken in any cities the size of Buffalo. All the cities with large gay populations had seen it and that was it. I worked with the distributor and convinced them to try," she says, "Because of the success here they are trying it in cities of similar size now."

"*Taxi* drew a largely gale male audience, whereas, *La Cage Aux Folles*

drew from all areas of film goers. *La Cage* was the Oklahoma of 1980. It drew from what we call the 'MOR,' the middle of the road movie crowd."

"*Taxi* was quite a success considering it was originally a 16mm home movie that was changed over to 35. The critical acclaim it received drew people to see it. I felt that people here deserved to see it. The gay male audience supports all the movies, so I thought they should see this one, too."

Vice Squad Problems?

The Vice Squad came one night, but there were no problems. "They guy came in, made himself known, watched the movie and left. That was all the contact we had with them," she says. "It has had problems in other cities, but Buffalo should be proud that it didn't happen here."

Many of the films that are shown there are of the foreign language art types. "I guess they looked at this one the same way."

Taxi was a breakthrough for American commercial films, just as *La Cage* was. They were both the predecessors of the plethora of gay oriented films coming out of the American companies now. The ice had to be broken and now the flood has begun.

Community Theater Concept

The next new idea for the theater is aimed at getting the community to use the theater. "I would like to see various groups in the area have special movies showings here. And I have already been approached for this purpose," she says. "I am more than willing to meet the groups half way so we can have the theater in use more of the time. It can be used for movies, live plays, lectures, variety shows and many other purposes. All they have to do is contact me."

Screen Sisters, Inc.

Screen Sisters is the group behind the Allendale now. "It includes my own sister, Mary Lou, and various friends of mine," Michele says. "We are not a traditional business, but incorporate some collective ideas into what has to be a business in these difficult times money-wise."

"We want to give people an enjoyable night out for a reasonable cost. For about \$6 you can come see the movie and go across the street and have coffee and dessert," she advises. "It is even more reasonable if you come on a Sunday afternoon matinee."

"The malls with their theaters and the boom in home video is hard competition for us. The number of movie theaters in the downtown area is steadily on the decrease. People don't want to drive all the way down here, with gas costs and the safety factor." With the theater district being such an important part of Buffalo's rebirth, it should include the movie theater, too. At present there are only the Allendale and one other small complex to attend.

Allendale Books

For the movie fun that likes to take some of the magic off the screen and take it home they also operate Screen Sisters Books. There you will find a selection of posters, movie stills, (even ones from "Making Love" and "Taxi,")

Continued on page 4.

Hard Times...

THE FIFTH FREEDOM is the longest lasting voice for Gays in Buffalo and surrounding areas and the second oldest paper in New York State.

It has survived in various forms, sizes and formats. It probably always will. This issue denotes another variation.

This issue is smaller than issues in recent memory. This is due to the overall financial conditions that effect everyone.

A greater effect, however, is the dwindling gay business market. The number of bars has gone from eight to four and some of those left choose not to advertise with us. This is certainly their right, and we respect this.

What we do have a hard time understanding is why those businesses that have gone under have tried to take us with them. By this we mean, after having placed ads in **THE FIFTH FREEDOM** and received benefits from their ads as well as the Gay Hotline telling of their businesses, why do they refuse to pay their bills?

Perhaps this is the reason for their demise. Not only non-support of us, but of Buffalo's gay bar community.

We DO NOT want to indict any specific businesses or individuals, but just feel that our readership should be apprised of the reasons for the reduced size of this issue. It is not due to the lack of material, just the lack of funds that are due us for advertising.

We hope to rectify this soon, so we can continue to publish the type of paper that we have in recent months. We are expanding our outreach to non-gay businesses in the area and to national advertisers in an effort to ease this pinch.

We would like to thank the businesses that are advertisers in this issue. We appreciate their support. We hope that you appreciate their support of the paper for you to read free every month.

Some advertisers are gay owned and operated and others are non-gay, but have been very supportive of us. It is important that you let them know you appreciate their monetary support of **THE FIFTH FREEDOM**.

We wish only the best to all our advertisers, gay businesses in general and to all of our readers.

In This Issue...

In this issue we have a feature story on the Allendale Theater and Screen Sisters, Inc. The new uses for the theater and the group behind the scenes makes interesting reading.

Morgan Baths is in for a revival, too. The Buffalo bath has been a standard for a long time and is going to be around in a new way.

Gay Pride '82 is fast coming upon us and plans are already under way for the best celebration ever. See how you can participate.

Mattachine's counselor training program adds an additional session. If you want to join, let us know.

We hope you enjoy our April 1982 issue!

Letters to the Editor

"Making Love"

Making Money

Dear Editor:

The people at 20th Century Fox have asked me to express their appreciation for all of the help given by the gay press across the country in making *Making Love* such a success. The film opened to lines across the country taking in \$3 million the first weekend and \$6 million within the first 10 days. During its first week of release, *Making Love* was second only to *On Golden Pond* throughout the country in box office grosses. Because of this success, the film opened in many additional cities over the past weekend, bringing the total number of theaters showing the film to over 500. Moreover, the audiences are very mixed in composition, consisting not only of people from the gay community but very many non-gays also.

Unfortunately, the reviews in the non-gay media have been mixed as well. While the gay press overwhelmingly praised the film as the first film from Hollywood which presents a realistic, sympathetic, and positive portrayal of gay people, the non-gay media critics have not generally reacted as favorably. In several cities, the negative reaction of mass media film critics has prompted

letters to the editor (or station manager) from gays who had strong objections to particular reviews which showed great insensitivity to the significance of this film for the gay community. Obviously many gay people are seeing this film through different eyes from those of the critics.

TWT in Texas recently reprinted a letter written by one of its readers in response to a review in the *Dallas Times Herald* which not only panned the film but perpetuated several negative stereotypes about the gay community in the process. This reader had contacted the supervisor of the critic in question and felt that he was very interested in the opinions of the gay community of Dallas both about the film and about the paper's review. The reader urged other readers of TWT to contact the *Dallas Times Herald* to make their opinions known. A similar situation occurred in Los Angeles, where a viewer wrote a strong letter to a TV critic after an unfavorable review which showed that the critic had little feeling for the impact that the film is having on many gay moviegoers.

I feel that there is an opportunity, being presented here to open the eyes of people in the general media about

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THE FIFTH FREEDOM is published monthly by the Mattachine Society of the Niagara Frontier Inc., P.O. Box 155, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, New York 14205. Published by and for the gay community with a circulation of 2,500 monthly, it is distributed free of charge through any establishment or organization permitting such distribution. Subscriptions available at a yearly rate of \$5 annually to cover postage and handling. All mailing sent in a plain, sealed envelope.

The presence of the name, picture or other representation of a business organization or person(s), in this newspaper is not an indication of the sexual preference of such person(s), organization or business.

THE FIFTH FREEDOM welcomes the submission of news items, articles, letters, drawings, photographs, poetry and short fiction from the gay community. Announcements and releases from gay organizations are placed free of charge. Materials submitted should be typewritten and doubled-spaced. We cannot return any materials submitted unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope, and all materials are subject to editorial revision.

Deadline for the submission of all materials and advertising copy is the 20th of each month. **THE FIFTH FREEDOM** reserves the right to reject any materials or copy judged to be in poor taste.

Staff members of the **FIFTH FREEDOM** are unsalaried volunteers and additional volunteers are welcome. Advertising rates are available upon request.

Address all correspondence to: **THE FIFTH FREEDOM**, P.O. Box 155, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, New York 14205. Telephone: (716) 881-5335.

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JOHN A. FAULRING JR., EDITOR

gpa GAY PRESS ASSOCIATION

FOUNDING MEMBER

We Get Letters...

Dear Disgusted!!!,
SO ARE WE!!!

Your letter was interesting to say the least. However, it does not follow the guidelines set forth for acceptance and printing of Letters to the Editor.

If you would like to have it printed in the paper, please follow the instructions printed here and resubmit the entire letter for printing. This is a policy that applies to ALL letters received whether complimentary or derogatory. We need to be able to verify the source for credibility.

Thank you for your interest and concern. We hope things have improved for your friend.

Editor

(Editor's Note: The FIFTH FREEDOM welcomes "Letters to the Editor." Letters for submission should be typed, double-spaced and less than 300 words. Send to THE FIFTH FREEDOM, P.O. Box 155, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, New York 14205. Letters must be signed in order to be considered for publication, however the FIFTH FREEDOM will withhold the writer's name upon request).

the views and feelings of gay people throughout the country. Negative reviews of this film, especially those which show a great insensitivity to the nature of the gay community, should be challenged by those in our community who strongly disagree with the opinions of the critics. A few letters to the editor can have great educational value, not only for the people in the general media, but also for their audiences should these letters be reprinted in their papers. Perhaps you might consider urging your readers to respond in this manner if they strongly disagree with the views of local critics.

Once again, thanks for helping to make *Making Love* such a success.

Joe Di Sabato

NYC

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Fifth Freedom Advisor

Popper Problems?: Yes Or No

Dear FFA:

Wherever I go in gay life I hear about poppers. I know they are used as an adjunct to sex, but being wary of any ill effects from the improper use of any drug, I hesitate to use them. The only place I've been able to read about them is "The Joy Of Gay Sex," but even that book doesn't answer my questions. I can't find any more information in the Medical Library at the Hospital where I work. What are they? What do poppers do? Are they illegal? Are they harmful over a short or long period of use? Can you overdose using poppers? How? What are the symptoms? What do you do then?

Looking for higher times.

That your hospital library has little information on poppers doesn't surprise me, as many doctors don't even know what they are. Amyl Nitrite (poppers), and its chemical imitators are widespread and popular with both gays and straights. The following information is taken from the Advocate Guide To Gay Health By R.D. Fenwick.

"There are no published reports of serious adverse effects among amyl users." Most physicians agree that amyl is a fairly safe and innocuous drug, provided there are no underlying cardiovascular problems. Some doctors disagree on the safety of amyl for recreational purposes, as most of the people who use the drug are young and healthy. Another reason for disagreement is that there have been no studies on the effects of both short and long term use.

"The controversy surrounding amyl is sociocultural as well as medical. Some see amyl's popularity stemming from the war in Vietnam, when the government shipped tons of Burroughs-Wellcome 'poppers' to the battlefield for use as an antidote to the cyanide poisoning that can result from prolonged exposure to gun fumes."

Amyl Nitrite originated in 1867 when a Scottish medical student synthesized the drug and noticed that the fumes caused a flushing of the face due to the widening of the capillaries. It was discovered that this property of the drug eased the pain of angina pectoris, a condition characterized by an insufficient supply of oxygen carrying blood to the heart muscles.

"The primary effect of all nitrite drugs, including nitroglycerin, is the relaxation of the body's smooth muscles. Because blood vessels are comprised of such muscles, amyl causes them to dilate. When the drug is sniffed, the vapors dissolve in the nostrils and open up all the vessels in the body within seconds; the heart pounds wildly, and blood 'rushes' to the head. But it also rushes out again, as it does from the extremities, causing a precipitous drop in blood pressure."

There is much disagreement as to what causes the "high;" the drug itself, the rush of blood to the brain or the sudden drop in blood pressure as blood leaves the brain.

"A final theory holds that because a lot of men lose their erection on amyl the effects are purely psychological. At the other extreme the mere aroma of amyl in a room is sufficient to give other men, who are conditioned to associate the druge with sex, an erection."

"Psychological effects can be spectacular. Some people become so ravenous on amyl that they momentarily lose all sense of self-identity and find themselves doing things they didn't think were possible for them. The drug also has a way of blotting out the identity of your partner, making him must another

body. Other adverse effects are throbbing headaches and fainting."

"In the absence of heart problems, some physicians theorize that the greatest potential danger is if someone has a weak spot in the blood vessels of the head. The amyl could make it blow out, causing a small cerebral hemorrhage."

"Amyl nitrite can no longer be obtained legally without a prescription, but butyl nitrite (Rush, Locker Room, Etc). which has a similar effect, can be purchased in both liquid and ampule form in a variety of places."

The decision whether to use 'poppers' is an individual one, but I would advise caution when using a drug whose long term effects are not yet known. They may very well be a chemical time bomb set to go off in ten or twenty years.

Gay & Lesbian Photos Have Showing In S.F.

As the nation's oldest festival of Lesbian and Gay cinema, the June event will present the latest in feature and independent productions by and about Lesbians and Gay men. The Festival is open to all 35mm, 16mm, super-8 and 3/4 inch video cassette productions by or about Lesbians and Gay men. Awards totaling more than \$2,500 will be given to the outstanding works in the categories of feature, documentary, short, super-8 and video. There is no entry fee, but return postage or shipping is required with each entry. The deadline for entries is May 15, 1982.

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Counselor Training Adds Monday Night Session

Due to popular demand, Mattachine has added an additional session of counselor training meetings.

These extra sessions will be held on Monday nights for 10 weeks from 7 to 10 p.m. starting April 12.

There are a few openings left if you are interested in the course. It is not necessary to be a Mattachine member to take the course. Nor is it necessary to become a counselor after completing the course. Many take it for their own betterment.

If you do decide to become a Mattachine counselor, it then is necessary to join to work The Gay Hotline, which Mattachine provides as a service to all in the community, gay or those who think they may be.

If you wish to take the course call John at 886-2590 or The Gay Hotline 881-5335.

Civil Service Support Sought For Rights Bill

WASHINGTON, D.C.—In a continuing effort to broaden the base of support for national lesbian and gay civil rights legislation, the Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL) has launched a major project aimed at gaining official endorsements from organized labor. The first priority for support is the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), which has historically been a leader among unions on issues of social and economic justice.

It is obvious that the eventual passage of federal legislation to secure the basic civil rights of lesbians and gay men will require more than demands from the gay community. Such passage will also require support from various segments of mainstream American society.

One of the crucial elements in GRNL's strategy is to gain solid backing for civil rights legislation from organized labor.

"Unions have been a critical force for passage of previous civil rights legislation," remarked Steve Endean, GRNL's Executive Director.

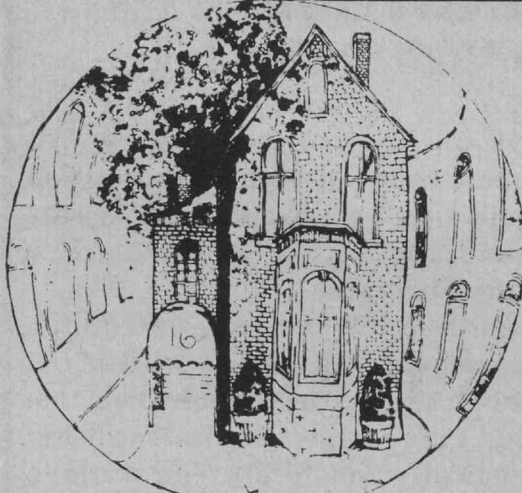
AFSCME has already taken a stand on justice for gay people. At its 1980 Convention, the union voted to add "sexual orientation" to its non-discrimination policy with regard to union membership. Given this fact, GRNL considers AFSCME to be a logical priority for additional support among labor unions.

GRNL has made contact with a variety of AFSCME locals across the country and hopes to build a groundswell of support within the union before AFSCME's Convention is held in June.

A major component in this endeavor is the identification of openly—gay and lesbian AFSCME members throughout the U.S. "This effort stands a better chance of being successful if the push for lesbian and gay civil rights comes from within the union," noted Susan Green, GRNL's Legislative Assistant and coordinator of this project. "We're looking for AFSCME members who will help organize support within their locals at the Convention," Green added.

All openly-gay and lesbian AFSCME members and anyone else who would like to help with this essential effort are urged to contact Susan Green at GRNL, P.O. Box 1892, Washington, D.C. 20013, (202) 546-1801.

How much would you pay for THE FIFTH FREEDOM? Advertisers pay it all!



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—MIX AND MATCH!—

Gay Pride Events Schedule Taking Shape

Gay Pride '82 in Buffalo is starting to roll even though most events won't be held until June.

Mattachine will be announcing its calendar of events in the next issue of *The Fifth Freedom*. Our contributions will include many of the events that people enjoyed last year and some new ones that we hope will be as popular.

If you have any ideas for good times, please let us know. We want to make it a fun time for one and all.

The Gay and Lesbian Community Center Coalition will be having a meeting on April 18th at the Center, 97 Rhode Island to plan their activities. It is hoped that all individuals and groups will attend to plan for this year.

Screen Sisters...con't...

Continued from page 1

books, soundtrack albums, T-shirts, magazines and postcards. The selection has something for every taste.

Coming Attractions

"In the future I would like to see bilingual movies and movies that meet the needs of the community," she says. "I am always open for suggestions."

"We may eventually move the bookstore into the theater for easier access to the patrons. It would be open regular hours, too. Once again it would make more use of the beautiful old theater," Eodice says.

"We want to see the community make use of a part of their history. We can make arrangements for group rates, special screenings and will be more than glad to help anyone to have an event. Just stop by and see us."

Out and About

Le Club's The Place, Tralfamadore, Too!

Gloria Gaynor
Le Club at the Buffalo Hilton
March 20

Tickets: \$5 each; two drink minimum.
(Haidon Productions)

Rating: Three Bells

Spyro Gyra
Tralfamadore Cafe
March 18

Tickets: \$7.50 (Ed Lawson, entertainment booker)

Rating: Four Bells

Who says the night life in Buffalo isn't picking up? There's never been a more diverse, wider choice of things to do and places to go with such enterprising entrepreneurs as Tom Haidon, showcasing major national recording acts at the Hilton's \$2 million Le Club or Ed Lawson, finally opening the new Tralfamadore in Theatre Place Mall south of Shea's Buffalo Theatre.

New York City native Haidon initiated the welcome, entertaining shows, performed twice each Saturday at 10 p.m. and 1 a.m., with fiesty Vicki Sue Robinson and 1 a.m., with fiesty Vicki Sue Robinson, Feb. 27, followed by sultry Andrea True and Musique. Ms. Gaynor attracted SRO crowds with her heavy-weight disco reputation with such hits as "I Will Survive" and "Never Can Say Goodbye."

While still possessing a strong vocal effort and professional stage presence, Gaynor's two, seven-song sets anchored too much in the past with simple, 4/4 songs.

"Honey Bee," "Never Can Say" and "I'll Be There" reflected the 1975 era of her greatest fame while new song, semi-funkish "I Can Take The Blame" and ballad "I Love You Because" showed promise.

Gaynor can still belt out soulful interpretations, as witnessed on "Yesterday We Were Like Buddies" and funkier, 4/4 discoish "Mend What's Been Broken."

It'll be interesting to see what transpires in the near future with her career, which similar to the other Le Club headliners, are all attempting to make comebacks via a more personal, individualistic style rather than jumping on the former disco band wagon.

Buffalo native Ken Barry and Talking Proud opened with a fair, six song set of fresh, today sounds handled adequately by his six-piece band. His vocals are the strong point, the instrumentals need tons of work and experience, especially since they'd only been together for two days.

But Haidon, a personable, hot number, who promoted major concerts at the Nassau Coliseum for several years, has changed Le Club's ambience in encouraging gays and blacks to attend the new ventures.

An open supporter of gay rights, Haidon's working to change past problems at the door, which still requires a casual-dressy code and two i.d. requirements. You must be 21. Upcoming events include The Marvelettes and The Tramps. Haidon deservedly gets Five Bells for adding another venue to party, see recording acts close-up in the 500-capacity room and to dance while they're performing.

Meanwhile, the fabulously classy Tralfamadore, molded in the same design as Chicago's Park West, opened to much fanfare with hometowners Spyro Gyra christening the sold-out, three-day happening.

The MCA artists uncorked an energetic, 13-song display of jazz, pop, rock and ballads, mixing material from their first six LP's and upcoming new release this fall.

Latin-flavored "Cashasa" from the "Carnival" LP, former SG'er Jeremy Wall's mellow ballad "Autumn of Our Love" and new, upbeat rocker "Just For Now" were standouts within their versatile, super-charged set.

Leader Jay Beckenstien, on great sax and soprano sax, is by far the six-man group's most accomplished musician. Keyboardist Tom Schuman was in top form, especially during his audience foray with the portable Moog Liberation and guitarist Chet Cattalo provided nifty riffs, patterns and rhythms.

Bassist David Wolffard held the bottom line and scored on a solo spot while drummer Eli Knoikoff seemed lethargic. Percussionist Gerardo Velez was his usual hyper-self, bounding around the stage with high-kicks, turns and staccato dance steps.

Upcoming gigs include Flora Purim & Airtio featuring Joe Farrell, April 10, Dizzy Gillespie, April 16 and 17, Larry Coryell & Michael Urbaniak Duo, April 22 and Maria Muldaur, April 24.

Open Tuesday-Sunday, call 854-1415 for ticket information and times. The Pinot Chardonnay is super wine and the veggie platter and Cheese'n Sausage Board are the best Snacks & Dips selections. All prices are quite reasonable on the spy menu.

Morgan Baths Gets New Owners

Morgan Baths, 655 Main St., a Buffalo staple for years, has been purchased by new owners and is due for many changes in the near future.

The new owners are local people and will be there daily to make sure the bath is kept in good shape for the customers.

"We will be open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week," says Bill, one of the new owners. "Soon after April 15 we will begin expanding our facilities and will eventually make it a whole new place. It will be different from anything that has been in the past."

There will be more security in the rooms, lockers and all through the baths. "We will be doing all we can to make people feel comfortable and safe."

There will be Specials, including 2 for 1 on Tuesdays with coupons available from local bars and Mattachine. These will be good on either lockers or rooms.

Food and drink will now be available, as well as an assortment of poppers, and other items for sale. With certain popper specials you can get a free locker or room rental with a purchase.

"We want to create a whole new atmosphere for those who enjoy the baths," says Bill, "We hope everyone will come down and give us a try."

Our Cover: The Allendale Theater

Our cover this month is The Allendale Theater, 203 Allen St. It is owned and operated by Screen Sisters, Inc. a Lesbian/Feminist business that is making a successful bid to keep Allentown, Buffalo's "gay ghetto," alive and well.


Community Center Open House April 25

The Gay and Lesbian Community Center will be holding an Open House on April 25 from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Center, 97 Rhode Island.

You can drop and in and see the Center and talk with Coalition members about the type of help they need to staff the Center.

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THE MAIN COURSE

A description of the music played at the Allen Restaurant is difficult to write without the use of multiple superlatives. Theatrical music is heavily based on original Broadway Shows from the 1950's and 1960's although there are selections from film hits such as West Side Story, Hello Dolly and Oklahoma.

Vocal selections include numbers by such theatrical luminaries as Fred Astaire, Ginger Rogers, Gene Kelly, Nanette Fabray, Judy Garland, Liza Minelli, Bette Middler, Barbra Streisand and even a smattering of that slightly off-kilter genius, Beatrice Lilly.

The Jazz and Big Band category includes instrumentals by the Dorsey Bands, Glenn Miller and others. Helen Ward Goodman and Ivy Anderson are accompanied by Duke Ellington's Orchestra. Other vocalists, long lost to our ears at almost all other places but the Allen Restaurant, include Fran Warren, Kate Smith, Marlene Dietrich and Hildegaard.

Of particular interest to the music-as-usual-weary auro/gustophile are tapes containing music recommended by the Allen Restaurant's Donna and Beth. They place a strong emphasis on Women's Music as written, performed and produced by such people as Kathy Chamberlain, Bonnie Raitt, Holly Near, C. Winter, Janis Ian, Jade and Sasparilla, B. Rose and Willie Tyson. I am told that when Peanut Butter, Dan and Joe's cat, heard this music being taped, she purred more than usual, her tail frequently dusting over the record surface much like a feline Discwasher.

This music is openly Feminist and Lesbian—something heard all too little elsewhere in this city. The Allen Restau-

rant people are to be congratulated on this score. And thanked.

I would be remiss if I did not highlight some of the more obvious humor Joe used in producing some of the Allen Restaurant's music programs. These are played most often towards the end of the evening and suggest to lingering customers, in varying degrees of camp, that it is time to move on into the night.

Imagine, if you will, Ben Bernie's "Au Revoir, Pleasant Dreams," Fred Astaire's "One For My Baby (And One More For The Road)," The Smoothies' "Goody Goodbye," Bea Lillie's "The Party's Over" (extremely funny) or Kate Smith's "God Bless America."

As the more patriotic customers stand, coats are at the ready. They are almost always sympathetic to the lateness of the hour ("But why did the time pass so fast?"), and bid a fond farewell to the Allen Restaurant and its people as "They Mickey Mouse Parade" accompanies them out the door.

JUST DESSERTS

About all that is left to say about the aural experience awaiting anyone at the Allen Restaurant is that, like a good sauce, it is difficult to describe. The word that best sums it up is CARE. The customers' compliments show they care about the high quality of the music there. Dan, Joe and everyone else at the Restaurant care enough to take that extra step toward attention to detail that makes a visit to the Allen Restaurant innovative, fresh and always on the mark each time you go there.

The total combined effect is a step into another world. It is poised - never teasing, never overdone. It is art. And in this writer's opinion, one of the best aural experiences in the area.

How Does Your Garden Grow

Potted Bulbs And Egyptian Poetry

By **BILL HARDY**

Hello, and an aesthetically auriferous April to everyone. At long last spring sprang upon us, and what a wonderful feeling it was to see those glaciers retreat during the second week of March. I also saw my first spring flower in bloom on March 10, the day of those supposed quakes and such. Yes, a Winter Aconite was poking its little yellow face out from a bed of leaves in my rock garden. Such a refreshing change from the usual faces I've seen poking out from my bed lately.

Yes, it's the month when all of those little bulbs planted last fall, or some fall in the past, are reaching upward, ready to shoot a load of their colorful petals so near and dear to everyone's heart. Crocus, hyacinths, tulips and daffodils just to name a few. But what, you say, of those potted bulb plants you receive at Easter time? What can one do with one or more of those millions of potted crocus, hyacinths, tulips, daffodils and lillies available just about everywhere at Easter, after the flowers fade away? Well, I'm so glad you asked.

Most people recommend relegating the plant to the garbage after the blooms wither, saying that the forcing of the bulb, started some months earlier, weakens the bulb so much that it will never bloom again or even survive a winter.

Well, I say poppycock! Out of the hundreds of flowering spring bulbs I've planted over the years, 80% of them have been from discarded plants that faded before they sold after Easter or Mothers Day (another big flowering bulb time.)

Of course not everyone works in a nursery or florist and has access to discarded flowering bulbs, but the one or two you receive each season can add up to a colorful show in a few years.

Planting is quite simple. After the flower fades, cut it off completely. As soon as possible, select a location in the garden which is not too soggy and receives some sunlight. Areas shaded by buildings are not the best for growing bulbs.

Tip the pot upside down and tap the plant, soil and all, out. There should be a good growth of roots, and also more than one bulb in the pot except for Easter Lilies which usually have only one bulb. If you wish you can separate each bulb individually or plant the entire clump. If you separate, try to get as much root as possible with each one.

You'll notice the bulbs are planted quite shallow in the pot, sometimes partially above the soil. When planting them in the ground, they must go deeper. Tulips, hyacinths, daffodils and lilies about 4" to 6" deep, while crocus about 2" deep. Add a little bone meal to each planting and fill the hole, water well and just leave them. The rest of the leaves will soon wither away and the bulb will go dormant for the summer. The exception to that is the lily, which may begin to grow in the summer and probably bloom. The others will bloom the following spring.

And so dear friends, I will leave you with some timely words found inscribed in the ancient Egyptian tomb of King Ramzitt III.

Instead of throwing
Your spent bulbs away
Plant them outdoors
Just outside your bay
Then come next spring
You'll glance out and say
Oh my but it looks
So cheerful and gay!

Well, I guess it loses something in the translation. So til next month, think green, and still do some misting now and then.

SElections by Sam

Creating Reality

By **Sam Loliger**

I never have been one who could be called an ardent movie-goer. Months can go by between times when I get out to a show, but that doesn't silence me from comments based upon display advertising for specific movies, friends' critiques, and printed reviews in newspapers and magazines. However, as I examine several cinema offerings this month, there are two that I have seen, and two others I plan to see soon.

As far as I know the artistry associated with the world of commercial film making has yet to decide that if it is at its best when it is reflective or creative. That is, do movies give us a view of life the way it is, or are they showing us what it could be like? In fact, they probably do both.

My focus today is the reality created for an audience that knows either little or nothing about the subject portrayed on the screen. If the production is not so far out as to be labeled "a fantasy," uninformed viewers may carefully be led to think (and believe?) that what they are watching in living, wide-screen color is a slice of life, an accurate portrayal of whatever is being shown.

Both *Taxi Zum Klo* and *Making Love* received their share of criticism from movie-goers both gay and non. With different emphases the two productions did share several similar minor themes and, of course, both made a statement about what it means to be homosexual. A statement, not a definitive statement. But is that how persons who are practically ignorant about the subject matter would see the two pictures? Or would they take one or the other as a description of what homosexual life is like? While many homosexual persons and

gays have been both, I wonder to what extent the fact holds true for nongays. Perhaps it would only be in their seeing both that the nongay population would recognize the truth that neither movie tells the whole story. Both stories tell the truth but hardly the whole truth.

Two other films contain characters with whom some gay persons will be able to identify. *Victor, Victoria* and *Deathtrap* will also be seen by integrated audiences. What will their reactions be? Perhaps because of the box office appeal of the stars of these latter two (along with the lesser-knowns in *Making Love*) some of the same nongays will end up seeing more than on eof these current films. Let us trust that some light dawns, and is shed on all our lives.

In public presentations I have made about homosexuality and what it means to me to be gay I often make reference to the signs aboard public transportation vehicles in Washington, D.C. For several years now a placard above the seats proclaims, "Someone in your life is gay." It is difficult for me to imagine nongays wasting very much personal energy trying to figure out who "it" is. I hope the effect the signs have is that when the opportunity presents itself for a nongay person to acknowledge an acquaintance, friend, or relative as gay that the experience is satisfying and good for both parties. As such, homosexual life is better understood in the context of the way individual human beings live their lives. And unlike any movie's mediocre attempt, that is really creating reality.

(P.S. Incidentally, I liked the two films I have seen so far).

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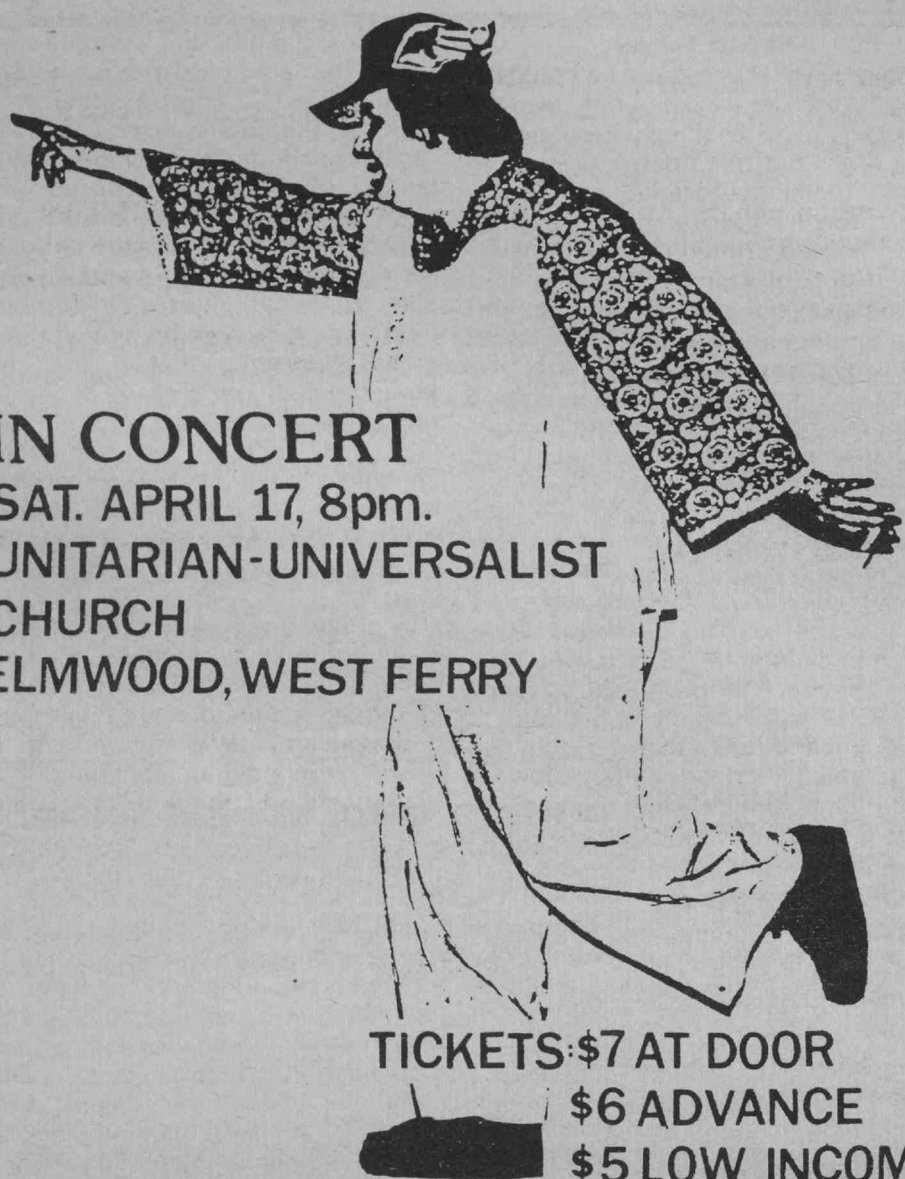
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Maxine Feldman And
Madelyn Davis, April 17

Maxine Feldman appearing in concert,
April 17

Maxine Feldman and Madeline Davis first met on the pages of *The Advocate* in 1971, in a story about the release of two of the earliest recordings to come out of the emerging Gay Pride Movement. Buffalo audiences have long been familiar with Madeline's "Stonewall Nation," which was released as a 45 rpm in 1971 through the financial backing of The Mattachine Society of the Niagara Frontier. About the same time, Maxine Feldman, then on the West Coast, released her first recording, "Angry Atthis," a bold statement of Gay Pride. In her booming, gutsy voice, Maxine tells the world, "I hate not being able/to hold my lover's hand/except under some dimly lit table/afraid of being who I am/No longer afraid to be a lesbian."

Maxine Feldman will be performing in concert on Saturday, April 17 at 8 p.m., at the Unitarian-Universalist Church in Buffalo. She has asked Madeline to join her for a special guest appearance. Like Madeline, Maxine has been an out front lesbian singer since the late 1960's. Both women identified as "gay" during the decade before the Women's Movement and Gay Pride Movement were around to help provide support. Theirs were among the earliest voices to speak to the public of Gay Pride and anger. It is more than appropriate that their talents, which helped build Gay Pride from its very roots, are this month being used to help raise funds for Buffalo's new Gay and Lesbian Community Center, through this benefit concert.

Maxine is generally acknowledged as one of the funniest performers on the women's music circuit. She is also a very serious musician, whose talents are not lost behind her outrageous style and awesome appearance. She can grab the audience right into the palm of her hand

as she gallops onto the stage in white tie, tails, and red sneakers. She's a big, strong lesbian, who commands respect when she says, "No one's ever going to kick sand in my face." In her songs and her anecdotes about teen-age life in the 50's, lesbian life in the 60's, and of life in general, she comes straight from the heart, with no bullshit. Her style mixes good humored rollicking, superbly executed magic tricks, and hearty laughter, interspersed with the most serious political and social statements. Her music can make you laugh one minute and cry the next. Through it all, she generates warmth and love, drawing an incredible rapport with her audience.

Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$7, or in advance for \$6, at Emma, The Women's Bookstore, Marrakesh, Talking Leaves, or from members of The Buffalo Women's Production Company or the Gay and Lesbian Community Center Coalition. Low income ticket price is \$5. Child care will be provided by appointment only, through calling 832-0524 or 882-0059.

On Sunday, April 18, Maxine will be speaking about the history of lesbian-feminist music in a workshop sponsored by members of "Woman plus Woman," the Women's Studies College course on Lesbianism. Maxine has been involved in creating a space for women's music not only through her own songwriting and singing, but also as manager of The Oasis, a coffeehouse she has run in Boston for the past few years. She has struggled to bring her own music, and the talents of unknown women and third world performers to the eyes and ears of the public. Her experiences and role in this development are an important part of this history. Information about time and location will be available at the concert.

Rights Nominee
Wrong Again?

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Just when the gay community was basking in a rare victory—the withdrawal of anti-gay Rev. B. Sam Hart from consideration as a member of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, Gay Rights National Lobby has learned that his replacement may be no better.

GRNL learned last week that Robert A. Destro, former General Counsel to the Catholic League on Religious and Civil Rights, is being considered for nomination to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission.

Destro's personal views on justice for gays are unknown at this point; however, the Catholic League on Religious and Civil Rights, which has close association with the anti-gay Far Right journal *The Wanderer*, brought suit in the late '70s to try to block IRS tax-exempt status for gay rights organizations.

In a similar nomination fight earlier this session, the individual nominated was forced to withdraw because he had connections with the "Liberty Lobby," another Far Right group which espouses anti-Jewish sentiment.

Steve Endean, Executive Director of Gay Rights National Lobby, stressed that, at this point, Destro's possible nomination to the rights post is only rumor and speculation. Endean indicated that GRNL, as the community's lobby at Congress, would carefully monitor developments and would work closely with Frank Scheuren, President of Dignity and a GRNL Board member, and with others to research Destro's stands in case of his possible nomination.

Lesbian & Gay Film
Festival June 21-26

The San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival will this year, for the first time, exhibit the work of still photographers as well as cinema and video artists.

In six years of service to the Lesbian and Gay Community, the San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival has established itself as the world's largest and most extensive annual festival of Lesbian and Gay cinema. Held each year during San Francisco's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Celebration, the Festival brings together the best in feature films, documentaries, shorts, video and now still photography by and about Lesbians and Gay men. The Festival has been established by Frameline, a non-profit Lesbian/Gay collective, to promote quality production and wider exhibition of Lesbian and Gay cinema, video and photography.

The photography exhibition will open on May 21st, the first day of Lesbian and Gay History Month and will continue through International Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day, June 27, 1982. Awards will be presented to outstanding images in a number of categories. All entries will be juried and must reach the committee no later than April 30, 1982.

For more information and entry forms contact:

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The Fifth Freedom's

GAY DIRECTORY OF BUFFALO



INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE

THE GAY HOTLINE: Tel. 881-5335. Counseling help with gay life, information on the gay community. Staffed by trained volunteers of The Mattachine Society. Hours: 6 to 10 Daily; all day on Friday.

PUBLICATIONS

THE FIFTH FREEDOM, P.O. Box 155, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, N.Y. 14205. Tel: 881-5335. Volunteers needed to work on the paper, including writers, artists, graphics people and photographers. Press releases, public notices and articles for publication may be submitted to the address above. Deadline the 20th of the month. Published the first week of each month. Advertising rates on request.

ORGANIZATIONS

MATTACHINE SOCIETY OF THE NIAGARA FRONTIER, INC., P.O. Box 155, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, N.Y. 14205. Tel. 881-5335. Meetings held the first and third Sunday of each month., at the Unitarian Universalist Church, Elmwood at West Ferry. Pot luck supper at 6:30 p.m. Everyone welcome. Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Meetings open to everyone. Membership open to gay men and women, non-gay men and women, young and old, and all races, creeds, and colors.

GAY PROFESSIONALS, (GP), P.O. Box 264. Buffalo, N.Y. 14209. Tel. Tom Hammond, 842-2750. An organization to provide support for gay people in the professions and those who seek a confidential place to meet new friends. Open to all gay men and women.

GAY PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE (GPA), 207 Talbert Hall, Amherst Campus, State University of New York at Buffalo, 14260. Tel.: 636-3063. Hours 12-5 p.m. daily. Coffeehouse each Friday at 9 p.m. in 107 Townsend Hall, Main St. Campus.

GAY RIGHTS FOR OLDER WOMEN (GROW), Tel. 836-8970. Contact EMMA Bookstore at the number above for further information.

Fifth Freedom WANT ADS

\$2 for first 15 words, 10-cents each additional word. Send to FIFTH FREEDOM, P.O. Box 155, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, New York 14205.

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ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS FOR GAY MEN AND WOMEN. Meets twice each week. Wednesday at 8:30 p.m., Columbus Hospital, second floor Board Room, 300 Niagara St.; Friday at 8:30 p.m., Ascension Church at the corner of Linwood at North Street. Bot meetings for alcoholics or anyone with a drinking problem.

GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY CENTER COALITION, (GLCCC), P.O. Box 1595, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, NY 14205. Tel.: 886-1274. Meets every first and third Tuesday of the month at the Community Center, 97 Rhode Island, from 7:00 p.m. Anyone from the community is invited to come and get involved.

STUDENT ASSOCIATION FOR GAY EXPRESSION (SAGE), 118 Cassety Hall, State University College at Buffalo, 1300 Elmwood Ave. Tel. 878-6316. Organization for gay men and Lesbians at Buffalo State College. Office hours Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Business meetings Friday 3 to 4 p.m. Social hour, Tuesday 12:15 to 1:30 p.m.

DIGNITY/BUFFALO, P.O. Box 75, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, N.Y. 14205. Tel. 874-4139. An organization for gay Catholics and Christians.

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF BUFFALO (MCC), P.O. Box 4183, Kenmore Branch, Buffalo, N.Y. 14217. Tel. 875-3099. Rev. H. "Buff" Fisher. Worship services every Sunday 3 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church, Elmwood and West Ferry Streets. A Christian Ecumenical Church for the Lesbian and gay community.

GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY CENTER, 97 Rhode Island, Buffalo 14213. Tel. 886-1274. Call for information about the Center.

NICKEL CITY LEATHER/LEVI CLUB, P.O. Box 897, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, N.Y. 14205. Write for more information.

TRANVESTITE SUPPORT GROUP, P.O. Box 155, Ellicott Station, Buffalo, N.Y. 14205. Tel. 881-5335. Attn: Tina or Angie. Social and counseling group for gay and non-gay cross dressers. Send self-addressed envelope for personal reply. Phone number will get confidential return call.

COUNTRY FRIENDS, P.O. Box 106, Clarence Center, N.Y. 14032. Gay women's social group which meets outside the city. Women of all ages welcome.

RAINBOW DEAF SOCIETY OF WESTERN NEW YORK, Midtown Plaza, P.O. Box 9356, Rochester, N.Y. 14604. Support group for Gays with hearing impairments and friends.

NEW YOUR STATE GAY/LESBIAN CONFERENCE, SYRACUSE CHAPTER. Meeting second Thursday of every month. Visitors welcome. For further information: Tel. (315) 475-6866 (8 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays) or write: P.O. Box 92, Syracuse, N.Y. 13201.

GAY AWARENESS ORGANIZATION (GAO), State University of New York at Fredonia, Fredonia, N.Y. 14063. An organization for gay and bisexual students, faculty, staff and area residents. Meets Sundays at 5 p.m., Room S-125 Campus Center.

BOOKSTORES

EMMA, BUFFALO WOMEN'S BOOKSTORE, 168 Elmwood Ave., Near North St. Tel. 885-2285. Feminist and Gay books and other items.

TALKING LEAVES, 3144 Main St., Buffalo, N.Y. Tel. 837-8554. Gay periodicals, Gay novels, books of general interest.

CARD SHOP

CORNUCOPIA, 569 Delaware Ave. near Allen St., Buffalo, N.Y. Tel. 886-8664. Assorted greeting cards and notes.

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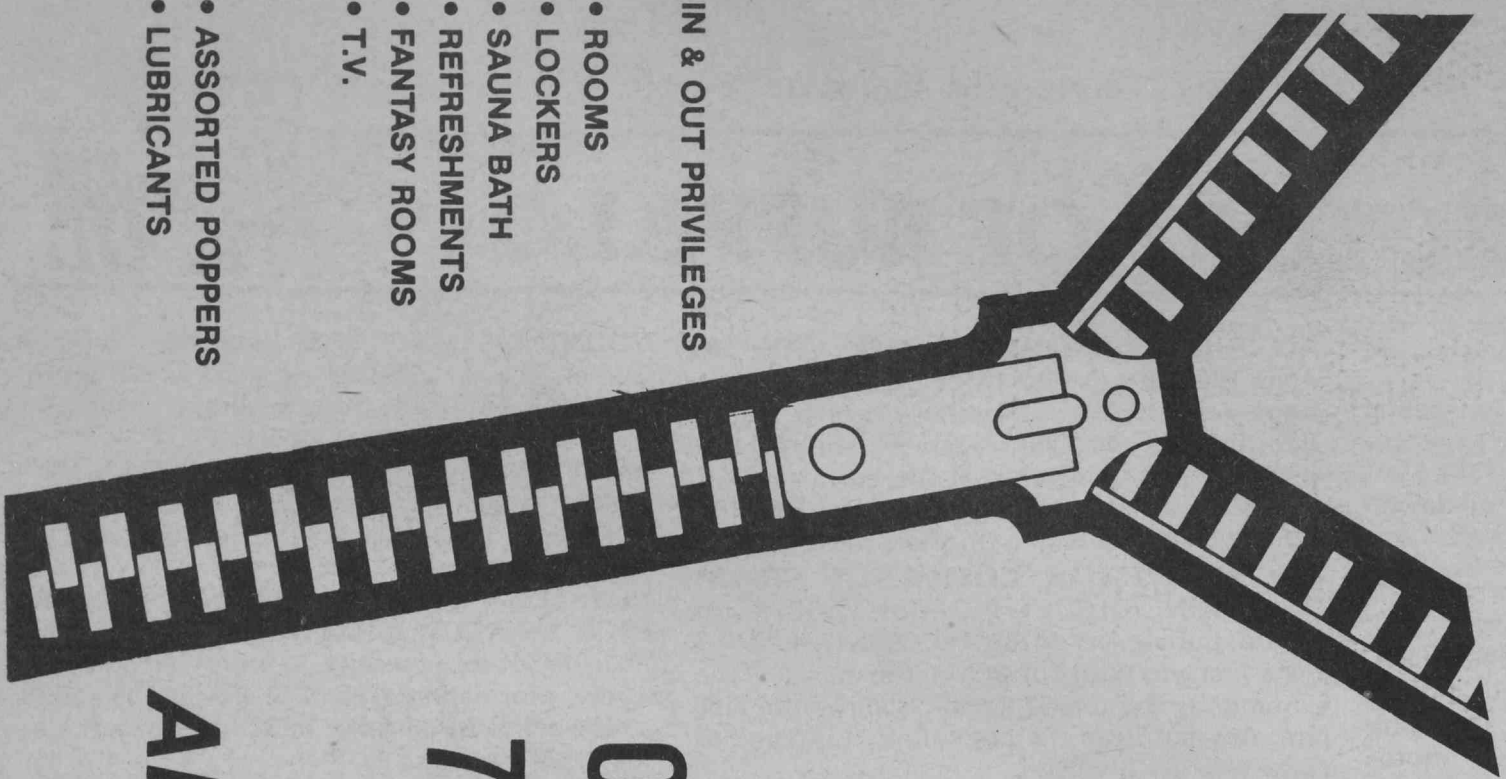
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