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The Mattachine Society of the Niagara Frontier

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THE FIFTH FREEDOM

A PUBLICATION FOR THE BUFFALO GAY COMMUNITY

Vol 12, No. 12

December 1982

THE LAST WORD?

What you hold in your hands could well be a collector's item in Buffalo's Gay history -- the last and final edition of the FIFTH FREEDOM.

In the last few weeks a series of circumstances brought the Mattachine Society of the Niagara Frontier Inc. to the brink of bankruptcy. At our December 5 meeting, the membership was asked to seriously consider authorizing the legal steps to dissolve our non-profit corporation.

That would have meant the end of the FIFTH FREEDOM, and the permanent shut-down of the Gay Hotline counselling service.

The problem we faced was one of the outstanding debts totaling over \$2,000; insufficient funds to print the paper; and worst of all-not enough people to take on the time consuming tasks necessary to produce a newspaper.

At the very last second, as we stared into the abyss of oblivion, several of our newer members vowed that they would not let it happen. They decided to grab hold of the situation-and do something, anything, to keep Mattachine and its services to the Gay community alive.

They went out to recruit new, enthusiastic people--men and women- to contribute thier efforts to the paper. They went to asvertisers-and they begged them to "keep the faith" and support us just one more time.

The result is this scaled-down "economy edition" of the FIFTH FREEDOM. It contains all the vital information our December issue would have had-plus a listing of our advertisers and the special events planned for
(continued on back page)

News from the...

COMMUNITY...

HOLIDAY PARTIES: Mattachine and GLCC will sponsor a holiday dinner for the gay community on 12/12/82 at 6:30 p.m., Unitarian Church (corner Elmwood & West Ferry). Beverages provided...bring some food to share with others.....Gay Professionals will have their Christmas Party on 12/21/82 from 8 to 11 p.m. at the Wilcox Mansion (\$10 advance; \$12 at door). Reservations required - call 886-4266.GLCC plans a New Year's Eve party where you bring your own booze and they supply food and mixers for \$5. Call 886-1274 for more info.

SKATING AWAY: Plan ahead for GLCC's roller skating party and dance, 1/21/83 at New Skateland, 33 East Ferry St. near Main. Tickets are \$3.

HOLIDAY BLUES?: The Gay Hotline has trained counselors willing to help and provide information. Call 881-5335.

LAST CALL?: Well we hope not, but Mattachine has a lot of problems and needs your help. Bring your body and any ideas to the next meeting on 1/2/83 at the Unitarian Church. Potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m.; meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

MCC SERVICES: Metropolitan Community Church holds a Christmas service 12/23/82 at GLCC, 97 Rhode Island St., starts 7:30 p.m. Regular services at GLCC every Sunday at 3:15 p.m.....Plan ahead for MCC benefit concert with Madelyn Davis at the Tralf on February 14. For DIGNITY's holiday services call 874-4139.

COFFEE ANYONE?: GLCC holds a coffeehouse on Friday nights at the center from 7-11 p.m., but are canceled for Dec. 24 and 31. GPA holds coffeehouses on the U.B. campus. Call 636-3063 for info.

News from our...

ADVERTISERS...

CITY LIGHTS, 729 Main St. features the Mark Wetter puppet act (like Wayland and Madame) Dec. 22 ..City Lights will be open all night New Year's Eve - no cover charge, free buffet, hats, noisemaker.

DOMINQUE'S, 20 Allen St. is always special on New Year's Eve with special treats.

M.C.C COMPTON'S, 1239 Niagara St. Open all night New Year's Eve, \$12 per person, call 886-2699 and make reservations. Champagne toast, champagne breakfast, noise makers, hats, hot and cold smorgasboard.....Christmas Party on December 19, no cover charge.

VILLA CAPRI, 926 Main St., plans a Christmas Party Dec. 15 with free buffet...Tuesday and Friday nights are two-for-one...New Year's Eve is \$2 per person with DJ, hats, noisemakers and all-you-can eat buffet.

RHINOPOTAMUS, 147 Allen, features a special on assorted Christmas Ornaments: antique wood, stuffed, painted glass, painted wood -- just \$2.

LAST MINUTE GIFT IDEAS.....a membership at the SUNBRUST TANNING CENTER, 4532 Bailey Ave., in Eggertsville...his favorite poppers available at HEADQUARTERS, 152 Allen St.just the two of you for a quiet dinner at the ALLEN RESTAURANT, 16 Allen St....toys you love to take to bed, at the new MORGAN SAUNA, 655 Main Street...a subscription to CLUB 201, P. O. Box 201, Buffalo 14201 (\$8 per year) ...a candidate for hair replacement? Call NEW YORK HAIR at 631-5591...how about a houseplant from JAKE N' RAY'S PLANETARY, 549 Tonawanda St.... ..or Lambda jewelry from MARAKESH, 140 Allen Street ...and check out the FANCY CLEA gift shoppe at 113 Broadway Market for unusual imports.

DIANE DUFF'S LITTLE CLUB, 750 Main Street, will be open all night for New Year's Eve with open bar and drink specials...stop in for details on Diane's Christmas party.

(continued from page one...)
the rest of the month.

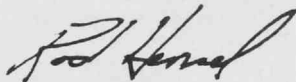
On January 5, the FIFTH FREEDOM will return in a full-size format. It will be produced by a new staff, but will retain some of our old popular features. We are actively seeking your support and ideas on what you would like to see.

I frankly don't know if we will be able to survive. We still face a huge debt, and we still must raise the money necessary to cover printing costs and keep Ma Bell from shutting off the hotline.

I am however impressed with the comittment of many Gay men and lesbian women who want these services to continue -and who want to see Mattachine Buffalo's oldest Gay organization, continue to exist.

If you used to come but haven't been doing anything lately-it's time to come home. If you wanted to help but have never got down to it-it's now or never. Call the Gay Hotline at 881-5335 and leave word how you can be contacted.

In the next 30 days, Mattachine will change or Mattachine will die. There are no other choices.



Rod Hensel
President
Mattachine Society

Coming in January.....

THE 'NEW' FIFTH FREEDOM

COMING TOGETHER: Artist Diana Z.'s word and pictorial essay on the beauty of two people meeting.

DANCE MUSIC: PROGRESSIVE OR DEMENTED?: Music Critic Marilyn Rodgers of WBLK looks at the scene and picks the month's Top Fifteen.

PLUS: The Aural Column; SElections by Sam; How Does Your Garden Grow with Bill Hardy; and a whole new look to our full size paper.

WATCH FOR IT !
