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The Mattachine Society of the Niagara Frontier

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5TH FREEDOM

A PUBLICATION OF THE BUFFALO GAY COMMUNITY JANUARY 1981 FREE

5th Freedom

PUBLICATION OF THE MANTONIA SOCIETY OF THE NIAGARA FRONTIER



↑ THEN & NOW ↓ WHY?



5th Freedom 5th Freedom

PUBLICATION OF THE BUFFALO GAY COMMUNITY

5th Freedom
5th Freedom
5th Freedom

JULY/AUG. 1980

PUBLICATION OF THE BUFFALO GAY COMMUNITY

MAY '80

FREE



5th Freedom

PUBLICATION OF THE BUFFALO GAY COMMUNITY

MAR. '80

FREE

5th Free

PUBLICATION OF THE BUFFALO GAY COMMUNITY



4
5
ALLEN
BURNED
OUT



PILLER
PROFESSIONAL SEX
2-2-80

5TH FREEDOM

OF THE BUFFALO GAY COMMUNITY NOVEMBER 1980 FREE

BUFFALO?

Arson Fire
Ruins House
in Allentown



Man Attacked
in Hospital

Area Ministers Press
Fight Against Racism

Carey Asking More /
From FBI in Slaying Probe

The City Proclaims
Its Unity in Defying
A Madman's Assault

2 Accused of Forcing
Girl into Prostitution

5TH FREEDOM

PUBLICATION OF THE BUFFALO GAY COMMUNITY

APRIL '80

FREE



5TH FREEDOM

A PUBLICATION OF THE BUFFALO GAY COMMUNITY OCTOBER 1980 FREE

5TH FREEDOM

A PUBLICATION OF THE BUFFALO GAY COMMUNITY



WHERE HAVE ALL THE BUSHES GONE? PG1



THE
BEST
REMEMBER
THE

5th Freedom
PAGES

THE FIFTH FREEDOM

A PUBLICATION OF THE BUFFALO GAY COMMUNITY

JANUARY 1981

FREE

1980 IN REVUE

This is a fast capsule account of the year 1980. Some of the thoughts are Buffalo based, others national state and world.

Our cover is a composite of The Fifth Freedom covers for the year.

JANUARY: I couldn't find a copy and, frankly don't even remember if there was an issue or what the cover was. It was before I became active in Mattachine.

The year started off, as does '81, with the hostages still in Iran. Why? Well we all have our theory. But we all also wish they were home. Is it possible that one of them may be Gay? Hurry home!

It also was the time for my coming out as far as being active in the Buffalo gay group scene. Up until this time I was (and still am) an infrequent bar goer.

New people. New Faces. New problems. Some good and some bad. But all a growing time for me.

FEBRUARY: I officially joined Mattachine. This month is represented by the THEN AND NOW WHY? cover. (I'm part of the now!)

Asking why there were so many people that were active in Mattachine in the early 70's and do few today. The answers vary with those you talk to.

It was a time of unrest. 'People would rally behind any cause.' 'We had something to fight for!' 'The cops were harrassing us and we had to stop them.'

The stories are many.

But why is the NOW as it is. I have some feelings on this subject.

There are more bars, more groups, more freedom of the law and more apathy NOW.

Bars that give us a choice and a chance. A choice of the kind of bar we go to. We have 'em all.

Groups that offer everything from active to passive participation in the gay community. The lines seem to be a little harder to distinguish as to where one groups interests begin and another starts, but that's fine.

Even with the gay harrasment in La Salle Park, with the anti-sodomy law being repealed, we do have some more freedom. But where are we going with it?

And apathy. Boy do I get in trouble when I say that! There is though. No one can deny it.

The voices rise and fall over such issues as the La Salle Park arrests, the gay attacks on the streets, the Gay Wedding, the presidential election, the new bars opening. Voices. Voices and no faces. No energy. No power.

I have tried to do my part to stop this type of gay feeling. I hope I have made someone aware that there is no need to be apathetic about Buffalo's gay scene. Only time will tell.

MARCH: 45 Allen burns. Mattachine without offices. Hotline homeless.

Sure, wouldn't you know it. As soon as I want to get involved everything goes up in smoke. But wait. Not everything.

There are still people who care and who keep on and keep up the work. Meetings at Buff State as a temporary measure. A lot of talk about how we continue and where we go. And we do it.

After all it's not the first time we have had flames evict us. We move like gay gypsies in the night and start over.

Meetings once again at the Unitarian Church and we are off again.

A new Mattachine president is in office, John Good, and keeps us going. It's tough. But it's done. The Fifth Freedom keeps publishing.

APRIL: PROFESSIONAL SEX, PART TWO.

A march on Albany on April 12th. This to protest unfair laws. (Did it help repeal the anti-sodomy law? We'll never really know. But it couldn't have hurt.)

Mattachine and the paper continue to keep us up on what's happening. That is if we pick the paper up and read it.

MAY: ALLENTOWN ART FESTIVAL PREVUE.

A happening in Buffalo's 'Gay Ghetto',...but where are the gays? Artists perhaps, but who can tell them from us. Very little gay visibility, but isn't that always so?

We are here and we know who we are. At least by sight or innuendo. But who are we as far as real people? How many of our gay brothers and sisters do we really know? Few. All too few.

JUNE: BENT

Bent is on Broadway in New York City. Gay Pride Week parades in New York City.

And in Buffalo? There's the Allentown Art Festival.

The women and Lesbians of Buffalo put on some Gay Pride Week activities,...but for women only. Men when will you get off your dead asses and take the hint! (EDITORS COMMENT!)

Some from Buffalo go to NYC for some of the fun. Those who can't go still have the bars..and the beach (cause it is summer) and the park (so far) and there's always the streets of Allentown, after the Festival is over.

Who needs New York? Who needs Pride? After all BENT is only fiction. Isn't it?

JULY/AUGUST: CONTEST FOR NEW FIFTH FREEDOM LOGO.

My first paper that I worked on. A good experience, but I'll never get real involved.

The feel of politics starts through the air. Anita Bryant announces her divorce plans. Can't Stop The Music comes...and goes. The Lesbians have a Gay Pride Week Picnic in Delaware Park June 29. Gay Professionals has a 4th of July Picnic in Chestnut Ridge Park. Perverts in the Park. A Gay Wedding. Emma harrassed. Front Park desecrated to stop 'us' from cruising there. Gay professionals has their first Media Night.

Anita's divorce and demise as a foe is final (?).

Can't Stop The Music (and The Village People) did stop after all.

First picnic has a small crowd of very friendly women and men. Second, has a larger crowd of friendly men and women. (Sex for proportional purposes only.)

CONT. ON PG. 4

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VOL. 11 NO.1
JANUARY 1981

THE FIFTH

FREEDOM

A PUBLICATION OF THE BUFFALO GAY COMMUNITY

FREE

The Fifth Freedom is published by and for the Gay Community through the support of The Mattachine Society of the Niagara Frontier, Inc. The Fifth Freedom is a monthly publication, distributed free of charge through any establishment or organization permitting such distribution. Our monthly circulation is 2500 copies.

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, organization, or business.

Subscriptions are available at a rate of \$5.00 per year. This charge is to cover only the cost of postage and handling. All mailings are sent in a PLAIN, SEALED envelope. Mattachine Society members receive the paper free of charge.

We welcome any contribution of news items, written articles, letters to the Editor, artwork, photography, or poetry from members of the Gay Community. We cannot guarantee the return of any materials submitted unless they are accompanied by a stamped self-addressed envelope. All materials submitted are subject to editorial revision.

We also welcome announcements from all Gay organizations. These announcements will be placed in the paper free of charge.

Our deadline is the 20th of the month for all ads, material and announcements.

EDITORIAL

The Editorial that appeared in the December 1980 issue of The Fifth Freedom did not reflect the official stand of The Mattachine Society of the Niagara Frontier.

It was specifically, and solely, the opinion of the Editor.

From now on the Editorial will be the official stand of the M.S.N.F. Any opinions of the Editor will appear in separate columns and articles.

Recently there was an apparent problem with Mac Arthur Park and their door policy.

Mattachine officers and members met with them and feel that at the present time there is no proof of a substantial nature for these claims. There have been some misunderstandings, but the owner and manager have said that there will be more clarification to those that may have had problems.

It is truly a case where the owners of a gay oriented business have all of the responsibility of keeping it 'safe' for gays to frequent it.

The Gay community has to take some of that on it's own shoulders. We all have that. Not just Mattachine. Or GP. Or Dignity. But all of us.

As long as we wish to use the facilities, or even if we are one that chooses not to, we do have a responsibility to help police our own (and those who are 'one of them' who may choose to frequent 'our' bars.

So we will help. ALL OF US! RIGHT?

Mail all letters, subscription requests, ad copy, contributions and all other correspondence to;

THE FIFTH FREEDOM
P.O. BOX 155
ELLICOTT STATION
BUFFALO, N.Y. 14205

All Fifth Freedom staff members are volunteers. Anyone interested in working on the paper should call the Gay Hotline at (716)-881-5335, or write to the address above.

Permission is required for the reprinting of any materials appearing in The Fifth Freedom.

Advertising rates will be sent upon request.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I would like to respond to the letter from J.F.D. in the last issue of the Fifth Freedom, I am not a regular bar goer, but last week a friend of mine and I decided to try some of the bars.

First we went to Dominique's, where the service was good but the air was too smoky. The drinks were good, but the smoke proved to be too much.

On to the Villa where the air was clean and clear. The guys working in the bar were good looking and friendly. The bartender made me a gimlet that almost knocked my cock ring off and if Brian, that gorgeous blond hunk at the door doesn't turn you on then honey, your turn on switch is broken. It's a shame the Villa doesn't have male exotic dancers anymore, he'd be a natural.

After leaving the Villa, we went to the "new kid on the block" where the "smiling blond boy" took our orders by reading lips. The music was so loud the poor thing could never have heard us. Checking out the crowd was next to impossible as neither of us could see thru the cigarette smoke and tear filled eyes. Sexy-maybe? Enjoyable, never.

If I were to rate our evening I would have to give MacArthur a "C", Dominique's a "B" and the Villa Capri a definite "A". Keep up the good work.

R.B.

Dear D.A.G.M. and Michael Devotion,

It is the policy of The Fifth Freedom to print all letters that are received. However, they need to be signed by the person and have an address. If you wish to have your initials, false name or any other signing to the letter, it will be done, and no one will have access to the original letter.

So if your feelings are as strong as you voiced in your letters, please write again and verify who you are and meet the above requirements, and you will see your letters in print.

Thank you for your interest.

Editor.

GAY TASK FORCE

by Ron Wojciechowski

ON VIOLENCE..... As was reported here last month, a group of concerned gay men formed a task force to deal with violence against members of the gay community, especially in the Allentown area. Three phone numbers and a mailing address were published (and will appear again at the end of this article). To date, no one has called, written to or otherwise contacted the task force.

Part of the violence problem may be that the awareness of the Gay Community needs to be raised. Like it or not, the problem can best be solved by the Gay Community. A seminar (or workshop or whatever you want to call it- but a get together) is in the planning stages which will talk about the problem, explore practical things everyone can do to reduce the risk of violence, discuss the ways of dealing with violence if it should happen, and develop a strategy for getting the best possible security on the streets working as a community with police and administrative cooperation.

Those phone numbers again: 881-5335; 886-2590; 885-3155. And the address: Violence Task Force-GP, Box 264, Buffalo, NY 14209.

We are diminished as a community each and every time one of us is harmed or killed. There is safety in numbers. Individuals crying alone cannot be as effective as a group decrying violence. The issue is our right to pursue happiness our way, no matter what lifestyle any of us lives, no matter what any of us believes as individuals, no matter what experience any of us has had. And to pursue that happiness with as much security as any citizen is entitled to have.

Think about it and help us.

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BOOK REVIEW

BY RON WOJCIECHOWSKI

The Devil's Game by Poul Anderson
(Pocket Books; copyright 1980 by Poul Anderson)

Poul Anderson is a writer who has earned a great deal of respect and developed a good sized following. The story here should maintain that. It is a variation of the Man-is-not-only-the-most-ruthless-hunter-but-also-the-best hunting-sport theme. The story affirms, once again, that human beauty is all too often a matter of cosmetics (Beauty and the Beast.)

The concern of this article is that the story line advances by exploiting a gay myth. A "game" is played on a Caribbean Island called Tanoa. There are seven players vying for a prize of one million dollars which will be split among the winners, in a game where almost anything goes and the object is to win as much of the prize as possible. One of the players, Matt Flagler, is a sadistic opportunist who kills and is killed as the game advances. The catch is that the most vicious player physically abuses one of the women players and happens to be gay and likes boys.

When he is finally killed the shooter proclaims, "...A coward, a woman beater, a boy-lover, and dangerous like a poison snake. 'E should 'ave been dead long ago."

The character is indeed bad. But this story is another example of that subtle association which reinforces a myth commonly used against gay man and women, that they are loathsome children-corrupters with no decency. Truth was not served here.

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MON. ~ FRI. 9am ~ 5pm

CAPTAIN KINK

Many of you have expressed questions regarding codes and signals, such as the meaning of keys hung on the belt. Basically, there is one rule of thumb: if something is worn on the right, it means he likes being done to. If worn on the left, it means he would rather give than receive. Keys actually have no meaning of their own, they simply indicate an attitude. The newest fad is wearing a Teddy Bear in the back pocket, with the left meaning to cuddle, the right, to be cuddled.

Handkerchiefs, of course, have very specific meanings, and the code is constantly expanding. In the near future I plan to print a complete guide to hanky colors in a 'clip'n save' format. There may be some disagreement over the list because discrepancies do exist, but I will print the most commonly accepted meanings. I may be arbitrary, but at least I'm fair. For example, both grey and tan can mean bondage, but since brown stands for scat and black is for S&M, I recommend using grey to avoid any shitty surprises.

Enough seriousness, you tacky bitches. The Captain is ready with January's Kink Of The Month:

January is so cold
 The love fires need fanning
 Try something daring and bold
 Initial your thighs by branding.

That's right! If you are into sick chic, brand your initials into your inner thigh and use the iron as a walking stick--- you'll need it!

Until next month, this is the Captain signing off...

FROM PG. 1

Perverts in the Park and arrests in La Salle Park. Making headlines and TV reports. Gay Professionals has a Media Committee formed to have our point of view for the news media. A good turn-out and the communications have started.

I, anda co-GP-er, make my TV debut as a gay man. (he had been on before.) The response is good.

A Gay Wedding in Delaware Park. (More Perverts in the Park.) The wedding was the reason for the GP group to set up the meeting with the media. It was a bad time for us, but only good came from it.

Emma was harrassed by Right Wing Religious groups about the 'Pornography' they were selling. It was shown that it was not true and that in fact, some books that they sell are in the Buffalo public schools.

Front Park was cut, chopped and bulldozed down to stop the gay cruising in the bushes. (Now the city has gotten over \$30,000 to replant it. Your tax dollars at work!)

A very, very busy month.

The month I took over as Editor of the Fifth Freedom. I liked it. I love it. And I hope that you do, too.

Tops in Toronto

The Clubtoronto 
 231 Mutual Street, Toronto

EC A member of The Club Bath Chain



SEPTEMBER: WHERE HAVE ALL THE BUSHES GONE?

La Salle story and Emma covered. My first solo issue. Media Watch is born to keep an eye on 'THEM'.

Senate wants to keep us from getting a lawyer thru the Legal Services Corp. So far they haven't passed that law.

Sept. 25 Ginny Appuzzo comes here for the re-election of President Jimmy Carter. We make the TV again, but for a better reason. Gay voter registration is undertaken and over a hundred are signed up.

OCTOBER: TENTH ANNIVERSARY FOR THE FIFTH FREEDOM.

Ten years of a gay paper in Buffalo. Erratic in coming out at times, but still there as a gay voice.

No entries in the new look for the Fifth Freedom, so I invoke Editorial privilege and come up with my own. Some like it. Some don't. It stays.

Gay Professionals lightens up a little and has a roller skating party. Fun time!

More politics and information on Jimmy Carter is offered.

Fair housing ordinance has gay input. No gay clause was included, but important wording was contributed by gay representatives.

NOVEMBER: BUFFALO?

Buffalo is the sight of the .22 caliber killings, Black and Gay assaults and other negative news.

We all arise in indignation that such things could happen where we live, but 'we will get over it.' These crimes are still unsolved, but are still affecting us all.

The elections are over and we 'lost' and the Right Wing wins. We all did what we could to help Jimmy Carter get it from rallies to gay voter registration. At least we did some good and showed we can.

Ronald Reagan wins! We will have to see how that affects us and ours. (All is not lost as far as our rights go. Look at December!)

Mac Arthur Park gets going as a new gay bar. A new choice of places to go.

Two gays are killed in New York City. Mattachine and Gay Professionals send Buffalo's Gay support via telegram.

DECEMBER: SANTA IN BLACK LEATHER (?)

WHAT? You got it. Just to tie the holiday season and the lead story, on Nickel City Leather Levi Club. (And 'YES' I do know I spelled it NICKLE.)

John Lennon is killed. 'All You Need Is Love'.

We get the 'right' to with the ruling that the states anti-sodomy law is unconstitutional.

Gay Task force tries to help find the ones who assaulted our own. As yet, no response. (See article in this paper.)

Forgive me if I forgot someone or something that was significant to you or the gay cause, but this is some job abd I'm not PEOPLE or TIME.

So it's 1981. So what?

What's ahead for us as individuals, as well as gay people in general is anyones guess.

I see hope. I see so many possibilities. I see so far to go. I see so few there to work at it.

I am very optimistic as far as the new way our government is going to go. The economy concerns me, but I never understood it anyway.

The hostages will be home soon. God please let them be home soon.

CONT. ON PG.6

POET TREE

MASQUES

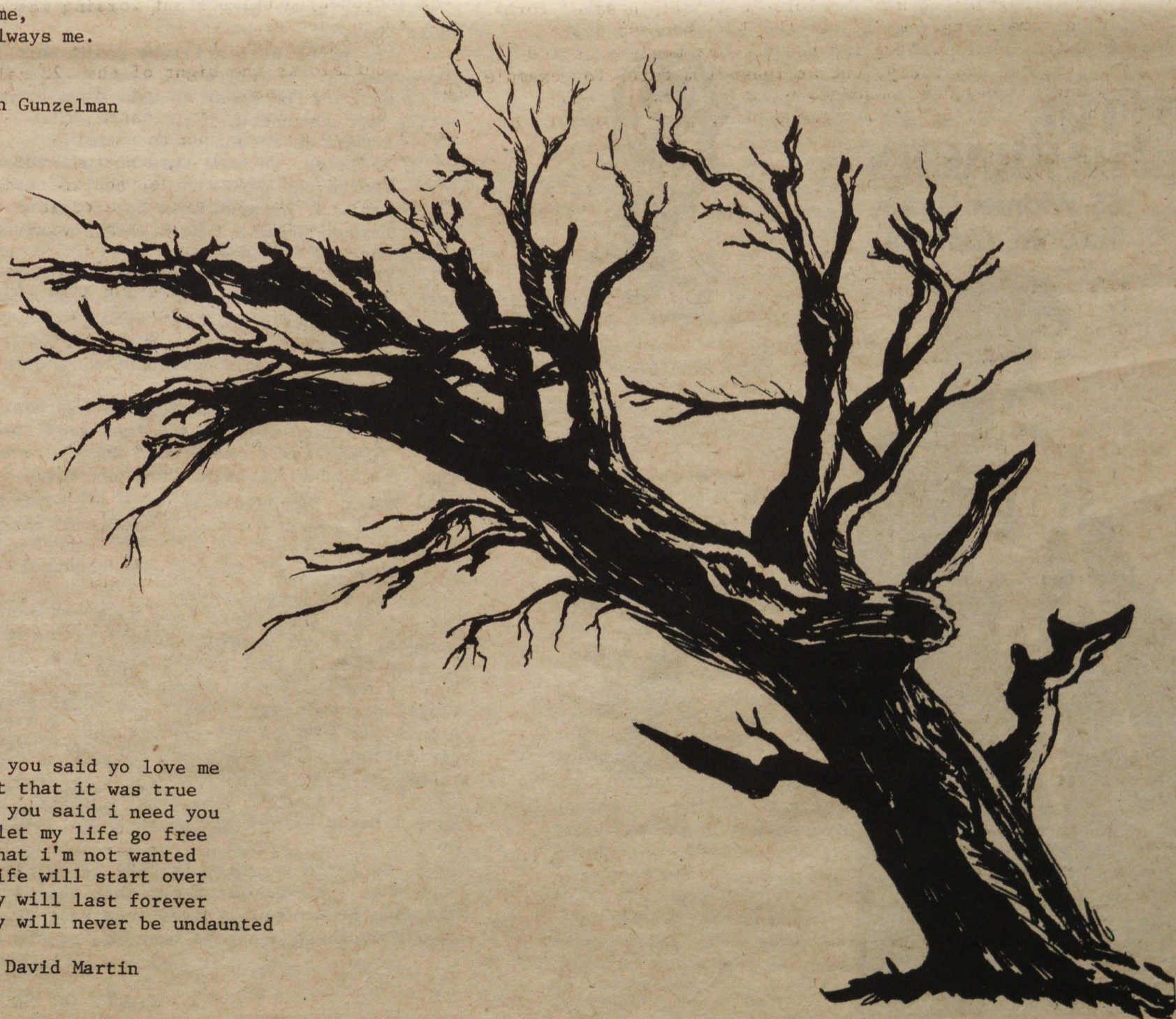
What on earth
 am I supposed
 to be?
 I have played
 the rules
 set by the masters.
 I have been
 taught by the
 mystic and prophets.
 Though often I didn't
 understand the game.
 I realize I have worn
 more masks than I remember.
 Is it ten, hundreds, or a thousand.
 I despise myself
 more than any soul
 in the universe.
 I have been a
 fraud,
 imposter,
 and a phoney.
 I don't like phoniness;
 I took off my mask
 and let others see my true face.
 I took off my affectation
 and let others hear me talk.
 I took off my smile and let others
 get to know me.
 I need the confidence
 to know that I don't need
 to hide.
 My real self is great.
 So I decide to be . . .
 me,
 only me,
 and always me.

by Mark Steven Gunzelman

You're Beautiful... Too Beautiful For Me

You're beautiful, too full of beauty for me.
 You've got the eyes I've always wanted to see.
 But it just can't be.
 Your body is the kind I've always wanted.
 As mine, be it my own or just lying next to me.
 But it just won't be.
 Your laughter is joy to my ear.
 But I don't get to hear
 it, because you're not near.
 But it's not because of me! (?)
 We meet, we talk, we share.
 Then when I NEED you, you're not there.
 But why can't it be?
 You say "I have so much to lose."
 Then there is no need to say, "choose."
 But... won't... can't... might... never.... be.....

John A. Faulring, Jr.



for when you said yo love me
 i thought that it was true
 and when you said i need you
 i would let my life go free
 so now that i'm not wanted
 and my life will start over
 my memory will last forever
 my memory will never be undaunted

by David Martin

"Like a Phoenix From the Ashes"



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7 STEPS TO (GAY) STAGNATION BY ANON

1. WE'VE NEVER DONE IT THAT WAY.
2. WE'RE NOT READY FOR THAT.
3. WE'RE DOING ALLRIGHT WITHOUT IT
4. WE TRIED THAT ONCE BEFORE.
5. IT COSTS TOO MUCH.
6. THAT'S NOT OUR RESPONSIBILITY.
7. IT JUST WON'T WORK.

HOW MANY STEPS HAVE YOU TAKEN TODAY???

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Weekend breakfast from 9:30

FROM PG. 4

Buffalo is "TALKING PROUD" in an ad campaign. And trying to solve the murders and problems from last year. Let's hope that we can do our part and not only be able to talk proud, but be proud of our home.

I will be in New York City from January 7-13 for a Gay Press convention.

I am going as the Editor of The Fifth Freedom, but more as a gay person from Buffalo. And believe me when I say that I will be talking proud about what we have to offer gays here.

Me and My Arrow will soon be open. (For those who don't know, that will be in the sight of the Hibachi Room.) We will have yet another place to meet and enjoy our gayfriends in Buffalo. There are so many and we hope that there will be more. (Including the one bar that was burned out on Niagara Street. Keep on trying!)

This conference will give me a chance to get the word out that Buffalo is alive and well. I hope that we will have many visitors from all over come and join us here.

And I hope, too, that all of you will do the same. If you have friends that live out of town, and who doesn't have them, send them a copy of The Fifth Freedom. Or better yet, (HINT. HINT.) send them a subscription for a whole year.

The paper will still be going through changes and improvements. We will still need people that can, and will, work on the paper to make it a product of the entire gay community.

Poems. We need them to print.

Articles. We need them for all voices to be heard.

Photos. We need them to be professional.

Artists. We need them for original artwork.

Layout people. I need them, because I have no experience in this field.

READERS. WE NEED YOU. Read the paper and enjoy, hate, laugh, cry and be informed. And then let me know about it. I want more input from you as to what you think about YOUR paper.

Mattachine needs new members and you can be one. (See the article on page 10.)

We have many plans for the new year and years to come. Be a part of them and feel good for it.

If you can't 'come out' there are still many things that you can do to help. Just get ahold of me and I can fill you in. We have something for everyone out there.

And I have a special appeal to the lesbians and women's groups.

Please, let's work closer together and pool our resources and people power.

I know that there have been reasons, and semi-reasons, for not working closely with them men, but let us keep them in that perspective, i.e. in the past.

I need and want women's viewpoints in the paper. I will not even try to cover the women's subjects and events. It just is not fair to you. And your non-participation in the paper and our functions is not fair to us, as a gay community.

So this is my long winded speech for this issue. Hope I haven't lost you in thought or in the continued on's.

So let's go ahead in 1981 as we did in 1980. I hope that I have pointed out that the gay community has made tremendous strides in making the rest of Buffalo know that there are gays here and we are here to stay.

CONT. ON PG. 9

MEDIA WATCH

by Rod Hensel

One would have to be living in a sound-proof closet these days not to be aware of the campaign of the Chamber of Commerce.

"Buffalo's got the spirit," we are told, "Talking Proud, Talking Proud." Which brings to mind immediately the question of what Buffalo's Gay community might have to talk proud about.

I suppose we could note that a year ago there were only three prominent Gay bars and we are now up to five. Or we could note the growth of organizations like Gay Professionals and the niche its spokesman are carving for all Gays in the community at large. And I suppose we should note the increased strength of Mattachine and the Fifth Freedom.

But the Gay community got an early Christmas present in December when the State Court of Appeals struck down the state's consensual sodomy laws. And Buffalo's role in that is something to "Talk Proud" about.

The ruling gives Buffalo something to "Talk Proud" about because the case was taken through all the court appeals by two Buffalo men who weren't afraid to finally bring the issue to the forefront. It was their Buffalo attorney, William Gardner, who successfully argued the case to win a major victory for all Gays in New York.

THE EVENT DID not go unnoticed. The New York Times led off the second page of its second section with a story by Robin Herman. It quoted Judge Hugh R. Jones' majority opinion in the case, with the significant phrase that "It is not the function of the Penal Law to provide for the enforcement of moral or theological values."

The Times also told us that 23 other states have repealed their consensual sodomy laws, noted that it is still against the law to have sodomy with minors, to perform sex acts in public, to commit forcible sodomy; and delved a little into statewide arrests under the law the court overturned (2,165 arrests in the state since 1975; 160 in New York City during 1980.)

For Balance the Times used quotes from the minority opinion written by Judge Domenick Gabrielli. "Scholars from Aquinas to Blackstone considered even consensual sodomy to be as heinous as the crime of rape," the jurist wrote.

IT WOULD BE difficult to find fault with the Time's coverage, and it is equally difficult to find fault with how the Buffalo Media handled the story.

The Courier-Express, which has been giving fine coverage to Gay related stories in the last few months, told readers in a front page headline "Consensual Sodomy Law Voided, Freeing Three From Area."

The article, written by the copy desk and based on wire service stories, went on to briefly quote Gardner as saying the decision would have an impact on courts in other states. Through the Courier, Gardner noted that 26 states still have laws banning consensual sodomy, which, if you read the Times story, leaves us with 49 states accounted for and one apparently floating around out there somewhere.

The Buffalo Evening News, pressed for space by the rush of holiday advertising and keeping with their long standing policy of burying anything the Courier uses on the front page, moved the story inside the paper to page 28 of Section II. Like the Times, the news quoted from both the majority and minority opinions in the case, and quoted Gardner in a single line as saying, "I've been trying for ten years to get the law repealed."

The News should get credit for clearly explaining the legal basis for the decision, which is that in light of laws that protect the privacy of married persons to engage in sexual relations in private, the law violates the constitutional rights of privacy and equal protection for unmarried persons.

A few days after the initial article, the News followed up with a story giving the views of Vice Chief Kenneth (Kevin) P. Kennedy and his detectives. One detective, not identified said he would now have to "look the other way if we see two persons in the act of sodomy in a car or out of sight in a park."

Fair enough to present another viewpoint, but the author of the article, not identified, injected editorial comment when he goes on to refer to the "notorious past" reputation of LaSalle Park. "Notorious" has a negative connotation, and the line was not a quote. The editors of the news should have caught that.

HEADQUARTERS
Cuts for
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TELEVISION OF COURSE was not about to ignore a hot sexy story like this one. WIVB-TV (Channel 4) was first with the story, having interviewed Fifth Freedom Editor John Faulring in the afternoon. It was 11 p.m. before WKBW's Eyewitness News got around to seeing Faulring, and also put Gardner before the cameras for a quote. WGR-TV told the story from the wires, but didn't follow-up with any local film footage (channel 2 is the sole Buffalo TV station that has continually ignored news of the local Gay community, be it good or bad.)

Naturally, the Eyewitness News version was a little "punchier" in language, but neither local station can be faulted for their coverage. Both put the stories at the top of their newscasts, and used them in their "film at 11" teasers earlier in the evening.

So the Gay community here can talk proud on two points. First, the role of Buffalo people in finally getting this law overturned. Secondly, the fair coverage given the ruling by the Buffalo news media. Next time you hear the jingle, be sure to sing along.

LET'S NOT TALK so proud about something else that has been going on locally. Moral Majority, the anti-Gay group founded by the Rev. Jerry Falwell which has been embraced by our new president-elect, is getting active in the Buffalo area.

They have already held an organizational meeting, and their supporters have been skillfully using the news media to get their message across.

Note for example, the Letters to the Editor" column of both dailies. Hardly a day goes by when "one of them" doesn't write in to let us know they're about to take power. After years of decadence, they see America as finally coming to their line of thinking.

They let nothing go unnoticed. Even the small community and neighborhood newspapers in the city have been carrying advertising (paid for by individuals, not the organization) proclaiming the time has come for the Moral Majority.

Buffalo's Gay community, which has been seeking a stronger identity, would do well to watch and learn. With almost no money and no formal organization, they have put themselves into the limelight. Right now their themes are general in nature, but how long will it be before the local folks will seize on the tactic that has put them in the spotlight so successfully across the nation-- the tactic of attacking (verbally) homosexuals.

If Buffalo's Gay Community is to keep "Talking Proud" we had better make sure we have some answers ready when that day comes.

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"We're one of the strongest centers of higher education in America."

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"Buffalo's got the lowest cost per acre for industrial land."

We've got a spirit and we're talking proud.

This is it.
 We're fed up with all the insults, all the jokes about our city.
 We Buffalonians have had it right up to here. We've got one of the best communities in the world.
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 We pull together.
 We get involved.
 We're not going bankrupt. We're not having riots.
 And we're not going to take your abuse any longer.
 So back off, America.
 If you want to poke fun, poke it somewhere else.
 We're Buffalo. We've got a spirit. And we're talking proud.



FROM PG. 6

I will be waiting to be inundated with your letters and contributions. Don't dissappoint me.

When I started my many tasks, people told me that I would burn out and self-destruct. I said no then and I say the same now. Please don't let me be wrong.

This may sound like pleading and groveling, but if that's what it takes...that's all right ,too.

And I even promise to try and remember that it is a lot and not alot. (that's for all those English teachers out there.

Thanks again for your support and love.
I do love you all, all the time.

*Love,
John G. Faulkner Jr.*

A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OF MY CONTRIBUTORS.

LISTED IN NO SPECIFIC ORDER:

SELECTIONS BY SAM

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW BY BILL HARDY

MEDIA WATCH BY ROD HENSEL

RON WOJCIECHOWSKI

CAPTAIN KINK

MICHAEL CALLARA

G. SAX

DAVID MARTIN

MARK GUNZELMAN

VICKY

STEVE ROVNER

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ONLINE & TONES

A SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL THE MEDIA PEOPLE THAT HAVE HELPED US OPEN THE CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION:

JIM MCLAUGHLIN WBEN RADIO NEWS

CAROL CRISSEY WIVB TV CHANNEL 4

CINDY DIBIASI CHANNEL 7 WKBW-TV

MARY ANN LAURICELLA BUFFALO EVENING NEWS

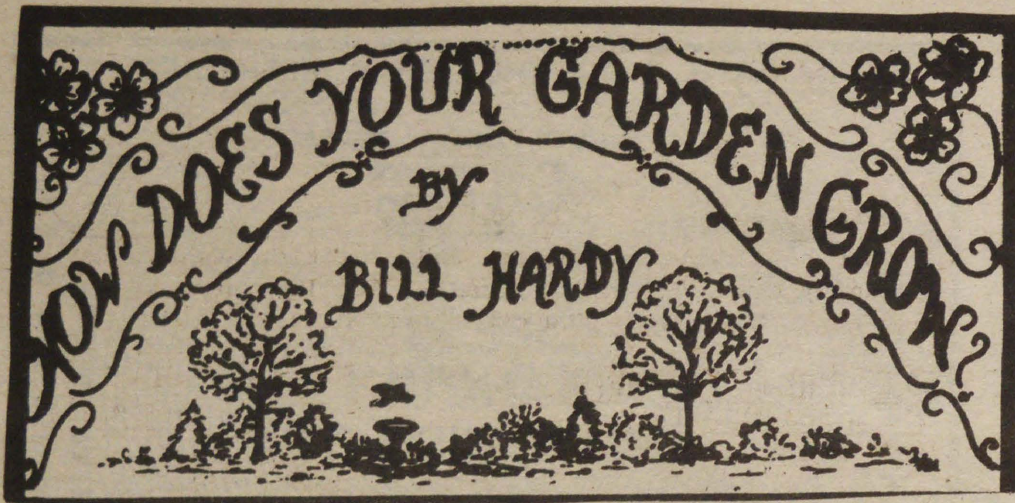
FREDDIE PATRICK WBLK RADIO

EILEEN MCCARTHY BEE PUBLICATIONS

MICHELLE WILLIAMS BUFFALO COURIER EXPRESS

ALAN LEVY WKBW-TV NEWS

AND EVERYONE ELSE THAT HAS REACHED OUT TO US.



Happy New Year folks. I hope you all keep those resolutions you made at midnight on Dec. 31. I know I am going to stay at 140 lbs. this year, even if I have to use Dr. Carvemoff's meat cleaver diet. Maybe becoming a vegetarian would help. Even if it wouldn't, it certainly is a fine way to lead into a column on gardening. Alas, it is still strictly indoor gardening, but spring is less than three months away (ugh!) and you can put those months to good use.

First, the monthly reminder to mist, mist, mist those little green leafed organisms on your sills, in your sitting room, or next to your sofa. January and February are perhaps the most devastating months as far as dryness goes. The colder it is outside, the more your heat is on and the drier your rooms become. A humidifier would be wonderful, but an empty non-aerosol Final Net bottle works just as well. Do your misting in the morning and early afternoon to help curb any fungus growth night misting could induce. On to other things.

If you are tired of the same old spider plants, wandering Jew, philodendron and Swedish ivy, why not try something a bit more unusual. There are many indoor plants that most people have never heard of, let alone seen or grown. You can check out your local nursery-greenhouse, plant shop or mail order, or drop me a line care of this paper, and I'll put you onto some sources.

Well, first off, *aechmea fasciata* would be a wonderfully tropical addition to your collection. So would a 6'2" loin cloth clad islander, but let's settle for *fasciata*. This member of the bromeliad family has large leather like leaves, which in themselves, are quite attractive. The fascinating thing about this one is the large 4"-6" wide bloom spike which rises out of the center of the plant. It is bright pink and produces numerous small blue flowers. And the whole thing lasts for months. The combination of blue flowers on the pink bract and green leaves is quite beautiful. It does take up quite a lot of space, so give it lots in a sunny window.

Orchids are an unusual plant to grow, well worth it when they bloom. But one in particular is a beauty, depending on how one looks at it indeed. *Catasetum fibratum* is a variety that takes it sex very, very seriously. So seriously in fact that when some poor bee flies around pollinating, and happens upon this one, it is usually the last flower it ever sees. *Catasetum* has small "antenna" which hang down from a cap which protects its stamens. When the bee wanders by and decides to gather pollen it triggers one of the antennae and the cap over the stamen flies off. They are violently thrown against the bee's body, and a sticky pad glues itself to the bee, holding it in just the right position on the female flower. Talk about masters and slaves. Geez!

For those of you who are into antiques, how about a living fossil. No, not some of the petrified people one might encounter on their public or private runs, (and I'm not referring to any particular age group.)

So called "living fossils" are plants that have managed to survive millions of years relatively unchanged, while other species of plants and animals became totally extinct.

Cycads, which look like a primitive palm, are a prime example for indoor culture. They are popular because they are decorative, slow growing and can tolerate a great deal of neglect without becoming locally extinct.

Tender loving care won't hurt them though.

One more unusual plant is *stapelia gigantea*, or giant carrion flower. Not exactly the most odoriferous flower, but very unusual. The 3"-5", sometimes 11", star shaped flower has the odor of decaying meat, which attracts flies which pollinate it. Ugh! Charming. You either love this one or hate it. I haven't decided yet.

Well, time to go. Do have a good month. Happy Birthday to all you fellow Capricornians, and say thanks to a green plant.

MATTACHINE ELECTIONS COMING UP SOON!

The elections for the Mattachine Society of the Niagara frontier will be coming up in the month of February.

If you would like to be able to vote and help to get Buffalo's Gay community to be as strong and viable a unit as we can be, please join and help.

This, and the years to come, will be very important times for Gays, as all people. So let's make a New Year's resolution to do our part.

If you have thought about this in the past and, for whatever reason, put it off, don't do it again.

We can be as one. Women, Men, Black, White, Hispanics, all of us. Gays and Gay supporters.

So here is the form. How much easier can we make it? Thanks.

MATTACHINE SOCIETY OF THE NIAGARA FRONTIER MEMBERSHIP FORM:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY AND STATE _____ ZIP _____

SEND WITH CHECK, CASH OR MONEY ORDER TO:
MATTACHINE SOCIETY, P.O. BOX 155, ELLICOTT STATION,
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14205
MEMBERSHIP IS \$10.00 AND YOU GET FREE FIFTH FREEDOM!

NEW YORK'S ANTI SODOMY LAW REPEALED

As I'm sure you know, the anti-sodomy law was recently repealed.

In the next issue we will have a more in depth report than this. We hope to have a copy of the entire decision and will have the pertinent parts in the paper next month.

My feelings are basically this:

Once again all gays (and in this instance straights too) have benefited by the courage of the few.

Two gay men chose to put it all on the line for you and me. They didn't say, 'I have too much to lose.' to take this to the courts. They had already lost. All they could do was gain from here on.

All of us have gained by proxy. It wasn't us that had gone through the humiliation of being arrested, jailed for who knows how long and then having our names in the papers for family and friends to see. And we didn't have to wait for months (that seemed like t to wait for months (that seemed like centuries) for the case to go through all of the legal channels that finally resulted in this decision.

We all will probably never get to meet or see the men who had the courage to stand up for their Fifth Freedom, but I say thank you. And thank you.

John A. Faulring, Jr.

GAY DIRECTORY

ORGANIZATIONS

MATTACHINE SOCIETY OF THE NIAGARA FRONTIER 881-5335
Temporarily without offices. Mailing Address:
P.O.Box 155, ELLICOTT STATION, BUFFALO, NY 14205
Meetings held the first and third Sundays of the month
at the Unitarian-Universalist Church, Elmwood at West
Ferry. Pot luck supper at 6:30. Meeting at 7:30. All
are welcome.

THE FIFTH FREEDOM 881-5335
The paper is being produced in a private home at the
present. Volunteers always needed to work on the paper.
Write: P.O.Box 155, ELLICOTT STATION, BUFFALO, NY 14205.

GAY HOTLINE 881-5335
Staffed by members of Mattachine on a part-time basis.
Hours: 6 to 10 pm. daily and all day Friday. Hours to be
expanded when we get more volunteers.

GAY PROFESSIONALS 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 everyone. Call Tom Hammond at
the above number for more information. Or write to:
GAY PROFESSIONALS-FF, P.O.BOX 264, BUFFALO, NY 14209.

A.A. FOR GAY MEN AND WOMEN 853-0388
Meets twice per week: Wednesday evening at 8:30 p.m. at
the Shoreline Apts., 210 Niagara and Friday evening at
8:30 p.m. at the Ascension Church on the corner of
Linwood and North Streets. For phone contact call the
above number and ask for a member of the gay group. For
more information write: OPEN MIND GROUP, P.O.BOX 395,
ELLICOTT STATION, BUFFALO, NY 14205.

GAY RIGHTS FOR OLDER WOMEN 836-8970
Call Emma Bookstore for more details at number above.

GAY PEOPLES ALLIANCE (GPA) 831-2179
Formerly Gay Liberation Front (GLF). Coffeehouse every
Friday at 9:00 p.m. (when school is open.) At 107 Townsend
Hall. Office at 311 Squire Hall. Hours: M-F 10-4.
SUNYAB, 3435 Main St. Campus.

GAY YOUTH BUFFALO 836-6899 & 831-2179
All gays 21 and under. Meetings Saturday from 1 to 3 p.m.
311 Squire Hall, SUNYAB, 3435 Main St. Campus.

UB MEN'S CENTER NO PHONE
The center is open on a drop-in basis. For all gay,
straight and bi-sexual men. Open M-F 12-5. 211 Townsend
Hall, SUNYAB, 3435 Main St. Campus.

DIGNITY/BUFFALO 874-4139
For Gay Catholics and Christians. Call the number above
for more information. Or write: P.O.BOX 75, ELLICOTT
STATION, BUFFALO, NY 14205.

STUDENT ASSOCIATION FOR GAY EXPRESSION (SAGE) 878-6316
Offices at 118 Cassety at Buffalo State College (SUC
Buffalo), 1300 Elmwood Ave. Office hours M-F 10-4.
Business meeting Wed. 12 to 2. Formerly Student
Association For Gay Equality.

NICKLE CITY LEATHER/LEVI CLUB NO PHONE
Write: NICKLE CITY-FF, P.O.BOX 897, ELLICOTT STATION,
BUFFALO, NY 14205.

FREDONIA, N.Y.
GAY AWARENESS ORGANIZATION (GAO) NO PHONE
SUNY Fredonia. Fredonia, NY 14063.
Meetings Wednesday at 7 p.m. in S-123 Campus Center.

NATIONAL
BLACK AND WHITE MEN TOGETHER (BWMT)
Write: BWMT-WF
279 Collingwood
San Francisco, CA 94114

BOOKSTORES
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Feminist and Gay books. 2474 Main St. at Greenfield St.

MARRAKESH 882-8200
Gay periodicals and Lambda jewelry. 140 Allen St.

TALKING LEAVES 3144 Main St. 837-8554
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Insurgent. Gay novels and other periodicals.

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25 Greenfield Street.

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153 Elmwood Ave.

MEAN ALICE'S 856-3298
729 Main St.

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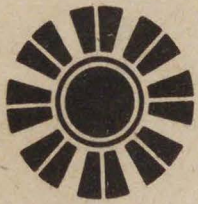
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